

**A SECOND SPECIES OF ICHNEUMONIDAE BELONGING TO
SCOLOMUS TOWNES**

(HYMENOPTERA)

LUELLA M. WALKLEY, *Entomology Research Division, ARS, U. S. Department of
Agriculture, Washington, D. C.*

The genus *Scolomus* was described by Townes and Townes (1949, pp. 420-421, Pl. V, fig. 43) for a single male from "Chubut, Patagonia" which they named *Scolomus viridis*. A male specimen recently received from Miss Eteheverry C., Instituto Pedagógico, Santiago, Chile, represents a new species, the second one, in *Scolomus* and is described below. Like the type species this is pea green and black. A true green color is rare in the Ichneumonidae, even in iridescent specimens, and all the species with green coloring known to me are from the Neotropical region.

***Scolomus magellanicus*, new species**

(Figs. 1, 2)

Holotype.—Male, El Ganso, Magellanes, Chile, February 14, 1952 (Maria Eteheverry C.); U. S. National Museum, Type No. 65905. Length: 10 mm.; head and thorax 4 mm.; abdomen 6 mm.; forewing 8.5 mm.; antennae broken but evidently nearly as long as body.

Head.—Slightly narrower than the thorax; temples long and strongly but roundly sloping; the eye, viewed dorsally, not more than three-fourths the length of the temple; ocelli large, the lateral ocelli more distant from each other than from margin of compound eye; face nearly as broad as long but appearing longer; clypeus a little less than twice as broad as long (8.5:5) only indistinctly separated from face and with anterior border emarginate medially; malar space approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ times as long as basal width of mandible; mandibles rather small and somewhat concealed by clypeus, and apically about one-half basal width, teeth not clearly visible but apparently more or less blunt; apex of labrum visible; palpi not unusual. Head, except impunctate vertex, with fine, dense punctures, those of face medially less dense and of clypeus less fine and more sparse in apical half; longer of two broken antennae with 26 remaining flagellar segments without tyloids; occipital carina incomplete, not reaching either base of mandible or hypostomal carina.

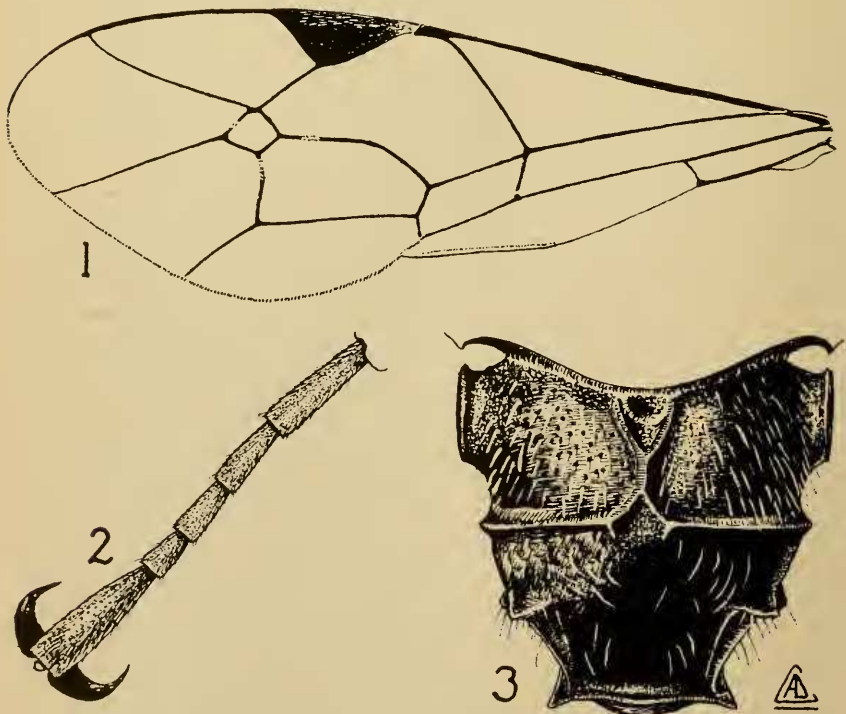
Thorax.—Scutum densely, finely, and evenly punctate, no notaulices; no epomia on propleurum; tegular ridge with backward-projecting spine; propleurum, and mesopleurum dorsally and ventrally, densely, finely punctate, mesopleurum elsewhere more sparsely so, with speculum smooth and shining; scutellum and postscutellum strongly elevated; propodeum (fig. 3) with basal median longitudinal carinae elevated and converging posteriorly, not extending beyond elevated basal transverse carina, dorso-lateral longitudinal carinae strong, explanate above spiracles, elevated at intersection with basal transverse carina, and continuing on to form apophyses in apical third of propodeum, the apical transverse carina missing between apophyses. Legs slender with stout tarsal segments, the fifth or claw segment of fore- and middle legs longer and stouter than basitarsus, in hind legs only stouter; claws large, strongly curved or bent, that of middle tarsus especially so (fig. 2); apex of front tibia with a small tooth on outer side. Wings slightly

infumate; venation unusual in there being two anal cells in forewing, the basal cell bordered posteriorly by a distinct anal vein that runs along hind margin of wing, except at extreme base (fig. 1), to transverse anal vein which is more distinct in left forewing than in the right where it becomes a little fuzzy medially.

Abdomen.—Shining, impunctate, long, slender, and club-shaped; petiole slender with spiracles slightly before the middle and with deep lateral grooves reaching from base to spiracles causing petiole to be so narrowed above grooves that ventrolateral areas visible when viewed dorsally (as in Mesochorinae and *Opheltes*); postpetiole fully as long as second abdominal segment, a little longer than third.

Head, thorax, and abdominal segments beyond the third black or blackish, with clypeus and tarsi more castaneous; antennae brownish with faint greenish-blue iridescence; legs (except tarsi) and first three segments of abdomen green, that of the middle and anterior legs a more yellowish green.

Comparison of the types of the two species of *Scolomus* shows that *S. magellanicus* differs from *viridis* in having: A longer and proportionately narrower petiole and postpetiole; longer legs, with femora



Scolomus magellanicus, new species. Fig. 1, forewing; fig. 2, middle tarsus; fig. 3, propodeum.

proportionately less stout and claws larger and heavier but less strongly bent; face narrower and clypeus apically emarginate; areola (fig. 3) lacking (present in *viridis* although open behind); converging median dorsal carinae forming a triangle basally, dorso-lateral carinae sharper and more explanate above spiracles; wings more hyaline with a crossvein in the small cell (this is only suggested in *viridis*) and with anal vein reaching crossvein; spine on tegular ridge not as widely extended.

Townes placed *Scolomus* in the subfamily Tryphoninae, tribe Tryphonini, and remarked that despite its many aberrant characters it was closely related to (*Dyspetus* Thomson) = *Dyspetes* Foerster. What the affinities of the genus are I cannot say without seeing the female. Certainly *magellanicus* shows less resemblance to *Dyspetes* than does *viridis*.

LITERATURE CITED

- Townes, Henry K., and Townes, Marjorie C., 1949. A revision of the genera and of the American species of Tryphonini (Hymenoptera: Ichneumonidae). Ann. Ent. Soc. Amer. 42: 321-447; 5 plates.

BOOK REVIEW

- SILENT SPRING**, by Rachael Carson. September, 1962. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston. 368 pages.

Rachel Carson, noted as a superb writer for her *The Sea Around Us*, has written *Silent Spring* with her enviable skill. In alarm and anger she arouses her readers by picturing a birdless spring of the future. The indiscriminate use of chemicals against insects and rodents has killed wild life; no birds sing, no animals roam the forests, no fish swim the streams; the vegetation is brown and dead.

Silent Spring has been selected for October by the Book-of-the Month Club. The SATURDAY REVIEW (October 6th issue) poll of book reviewers give it 25 votes out of 44.

The publisher's publicity sheets state that 90 percent of the letters addressed to the author are favorable, that Justice William O. Douglas writes that a Bill of Rights is needed against the 20th Century poisoners of the human race, and that advance printings amounting to 100,000 copies already have been ordered.

Despite all of this favorable publicity, Miss Carson presents a one-sided and over-emphasized picture of the problem; her attack on the integrity of some scientists is unwarranted. Articles in *Time*, September 28, and by L. L. Baldwin in *Science*, September 28, point out in detail some of these errors.